Reviewer’s report

Title: Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome caused by the dissemination of an invasive emm3/ST15 strain of Streptococcus pyogenes

Version: 1 Date: 24 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Chuan Chiang-Ni

Reviewer's report:

Do I miss something in Fig. 2? If this strain (KS030) is the first emm3 GAS strain with complete genome sequencing in Japan, how can you conclude that the KS030 "was not similar to other ST15 isolates identified in Japan" (Page 4, Line 112-113) (Page 1, Line 31)? Did the isolates showed in the additional-file1 (5 isolates from Japan) have complete genome sequencing results? In addition, I only found KS030 but not other Japan isolates in Fig. 2. I suggest the information about 5 Japan isolates should be shown (at least should be described in the text).

The sentence of conclusions in Page 1 (Line 32) should be revised.

Page 4, Line 123-125, the rocA and emm3 should be italic.

In Reference: the Streptococcus pyogenes and emm3 should be italic.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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